

It is noted that claim 23 also recites that the second layer is only attached to the upper surface of the first layer in selected locations. As discussed with respect to claim 9, it is submitted that claim 23 is allowable for this additional reason.

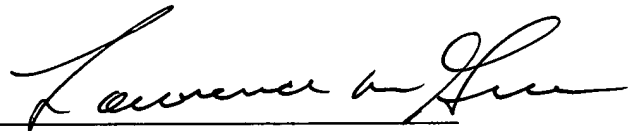
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that, in view of the foregoing arguments, all of the claims pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney, should she feel that such a telephone call would further the prosecution of the present application.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,

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x12/23/04x

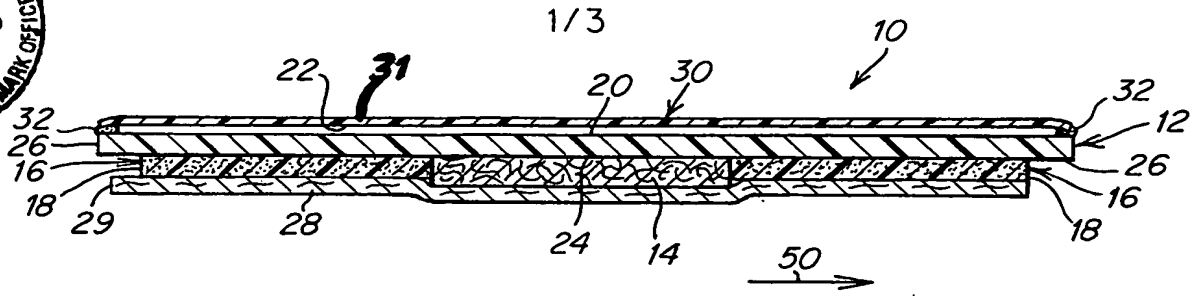


Fig. 1

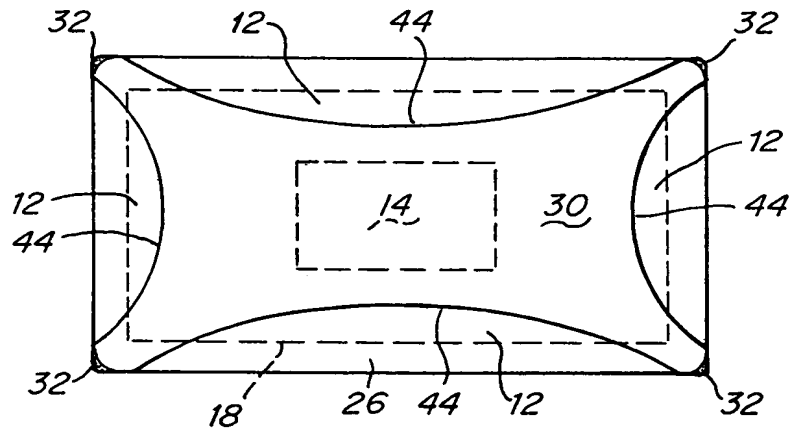


Fig. 2

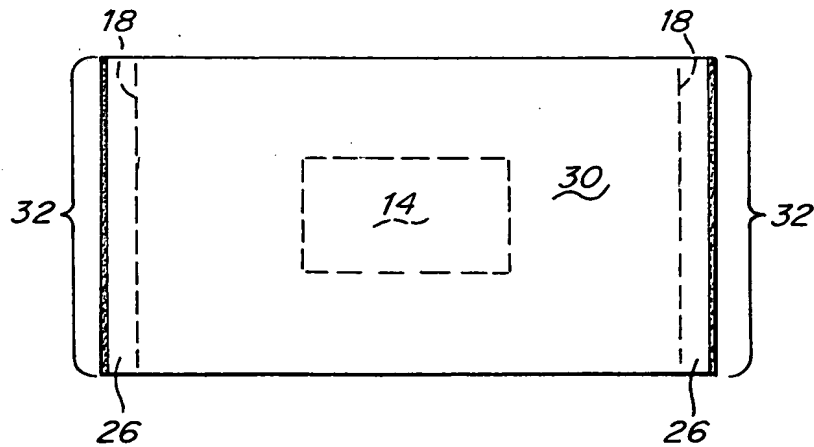


Fig. 3